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Message Text

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FOR DALLEY FROM IO

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 09337 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN
BERN, BONN, BRUSSELS, CAIRO, CANBERRA, COPENHAGEN, DAMASCUS
DUBLIN, THE HAGUE, HELSINKI, JIDDA, KUWAIT, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG
MADRID, MEXICO, MOSCOW, OSLO, OTTAWA, PARIS, REYKJAVIK,
ROME, STOCKHOLM, TEL AVIV, TOKYO, TRIPOLI, TUNIS, VIENNA,
AND WELLINGTON DATED JUNE 20, 1978.

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 09337

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJECT: ILO CONFERENCE: STRONG IMEC EFFORT TO DECLARE
LIBYAN-SYRIAN RESOLUTION "INEXPEDIENT" IS NARROWLY
DEFEATED.

REF: GENEVA 9081 (NOTAL)

1. IMEC COUNTRIES, LED BY CANADA AND THE UK, UNSUCCESS-
FULLY ATTEMPTED IN RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE JUNE 19 TO HAVE
THE LIBYAN-SYRIAN RESOLUTION DECLARED INEXPEDIENT UNDER
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ARTICLE 17, PARAGRAPH 7 OF THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE ILO
CONFERENCE. ARAB DELEGATES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS (G-77 AND
COMMUNISTS) USED THE ABSTENTION METHOD TO DEFEAT THE IMEC
PROPOSAL. UNDER THE WEIGHTED VOTE SYSTEM, THE IMEC WAS
ABLE TO GAIN SLIGHTLY MORE THAN 43,000 VOTES WITH A
QUORUM BEING NEARLY 48,000. ABSTENTIONS AMOUNTED TO OVER
64,000. THE MISSION WILL POUCH THE OFFICIAL VOTE TALLIES

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AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. AMBASSADOR KASTOFT OF DENMARK, ACTING AS CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, REPORTED THAT THE IMEC COUNTRIES WERE GREATLY ENCOURAGED BY THE DEGREE OF RESISTANCE TO THE SYRIAN RESOLUTION EVEN THOUGH HE NOW ASSUMES THAT IT WILL PASS. HE SAID THAT THE IMEC LEADERSHIP REGRETTED THAT THEIR EFFORT HAD NOT BEEN ORGANIZED EARLIER. HE BELIEVES THAT THE CLOSENESS OF THE BATTLE INDICATES THAT THE PRESENCE OF THE US COULD HAVE BEEN DECISIVE IN BRINGING ABOUT A DIFFERENT RESULT.

2. THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR, DR. JOEL BARROMI, DESCRIBED THE IMEC EFFORT AS "AN IMPRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT." ILO SOURCES HAVE INFORMED THE MISSION THAT THE DG WILL NOT PURSUE HIS PLAN TO PERSUADE THE SYRIANS AND LIBYANS TO WITHDRAW THE RESOLUTION IN EXCHANGE FOR A STATEMENT BY HIM. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHO HAVE OPPOSED THE RESOLUTION AND THE IMEC COUNTRIES ARE AGREED THAT AMENDMENTS SHOULD NOT BE PROPOSED. THIS STRATEGY WILL HOPEFULLY LIMIT THE DEBATE. IT IS ALSO ENCOURAGED BY THE AMBASSADOR OF ISRAEL WHO BELIEVES THAT THE PRESENT RESOLUTION, ALTHOUGH UNACCEPTABLE TO HIS GOVERNMENT, IS MUCH LESS DAMAGING THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. HE BELIEVES THAT OPENING THE POSSIBILITY OF AMENDMENTS WITHOUT THE ASSURANCE OF A PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY COULD ONLY HAVE ADVERSE RESULTS. BARROMI IS FIGHTING EFFECTIVELY AND ENERGETICALLY. HE MAKES THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POINT THAT THE SYRIAN RESOLUTION DOES NOT CHANGE ANYTHING EXCEPT PROLONGING THE ISSUE FOR ANOTHER FIVE YEARS. REALISTICALLY KNOWS THIS ISSUE WILL BE BEFORE THE ILO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES UNTIL PEACE IS NEGOTIATED IN THE MIDDLE EAST. VANDEN HEUVEL
UNQUOTE VANCE

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